# San Joaquin Valley Growth Response Study, Phase III - Advisory Committee Meeting #1









Thursday, June 26, 2007 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Caltrans District 6 - Manchester Center Yosemite Room, #145

### **Meeting Notes**

Attendee Sign-in Sheets attached.

9:00 Opening Remarks and Introductions ....... Georgiena Vivian

Ms. Vivian provided brief opening remarks focusing on why the Study was important within the Valley and within the Fresno-Clovis-SE Madera County Region.

Ms. Vivian explained why the Study was being conducted and focused her discussion on a set of tools or "toolbox" that could be applied by the local jurisdictions or others during review of General Plans and proposed developments. She emphasized that the tools were the main product of the Phase III Study, not the desire to identify major General Plan issues or improvements to the General Plans that may result from the modeling of such plans within the Region.

9:25 Review of Phase I and Phase II Study Outcomes ............ Georgiena Vivian & Jerry Walters

Ms. Vivian provided an overview of Phase I and II of the Study conducted by the Mineta Institute and the Rand Corporation over the past two years. She highlighted the major outcomes of both phases of the Study as referenced in the presentation.

- - Review of Scope of Work
  - ♦ Project Milestones

Ms. Vivian reviewed the proposed Scope of work for the project and Mr. Walters provided an overview of the Phase III Modeling process focusing on other studies that have been conducted within California.

#### 10:00 Break

#### 10:15 Discussion of Smart Growth Indicators

- ♦ Overview...... Georgiena Vivian

The Advisory Committee was asked to identify the indicators that were the most important. Discussion was initiated by John Wright, City of Clovis regarding what an indicator was and how it was to be applied in the modeling process. Project Team staff explained the indicator process using examples of the indicators would be applied. Carolina Jimenez-Hogg, Fresno County asked how the study and the modeling process would benefit the rural areas of the County since the study was focusing on the Fresno-Clovis-SE Madera County Region. Project Team staff indicated that the Geographic Information System (GIS) files and socioeconomic data applied for purposes of the study would be Countywide data sets. Given time and budget constraints, analysis of various land use scenarios within the Study Region could provide an indication of the effect of those scenarios on rural transportation systems.

Following another lengthy discussion of the indicator process, John Wright and others suggested that the Project Team take the presentation and the request for a prioritized list of indicators to the elected bodies (Fresno City Council, Fresno County Board of Supervisors, Clovis City Council, and the Madera County Board of Supervisors). The Team should first gain an understanding of the important indicators from the electeds and then come back to the Advisory Committee with the results for further discussion.

## 11:05 Review Recommended Smart Growth Model Applications

- ♦ Overview of Selection Process ...... Richard Lee
- ♦ Model Demonstrations ...... Phil Erickson, Teifion Rice-Evans, Richard Lee & Jerry Walters

Various members of the Project Team reviewed the process the Phase III Team applied to narrow the list of Smart Growth Modeling Tools identified from Phase II of the Study. This process was the first Subphase task to be undertaken by the Phase III Team. The process included further detailed evaluation of each of the model applications and development of review criteria focusing on special needs within the Study Region. The Team indicated that there are three modeling tools that will be required for purposes of Phase III including the Land Use Allocation Model, the Visualization/Indicator Model and the Transportation Model. Both the Land Use Allocation and Visualization Models will be developed by the Project Team from software (What if? And INDEX). The Transportation Model to be applied will focus on using the Council of Fresno County Governments (COFCG) Model and/or the Madera County Traffic Model.

11:35 Discussion of Available Data and Resources ............................... Georgiena Vivian & Project Team

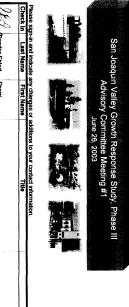
Based upon the need to meet with the elected officials before the Advisory Committee prioritizes model indicators, discussion regarding this item was limited.

11:40 Discussion of Similar Studies in the Region ...... Georgiena Vivian

Ms. Vivian provided an overview of other studies being conducted with the Valley including the Collaborative Regional Initiative (CRI), which has focused on the development of a single GIS dataset for the General Plans within the Region. The CRI has agreed to combine further effort with the Phase III Modeling process. The other study currently underway with the Valley is the Merced Smart Growth Study being conducted by the Merced Association of Governments. The study is just being initiated and further details were not available at the time of the Workshops.

Ms. Vivian identified the next few tasks to be undertaken by the Project Team including:

- Meeting with the elected officials to review the Study purpose and identify important indicators:
- Meeting with the Advisory Committee to review results of the meeting with the elected bodies;
- Completing the Phase III Subphase 2 Scope of Work and budget and forward the information to Caltrans for review and comment;
- Initiating the collection of data and information to develop Subphase 2;
- Meeting with the Advisory Committee and the Stakeholders at a workshop series in Late Fall to review results of Subphase 2 and to begin the identification of various alternative scenarios that should be applied to the modeling process (Subphase 3).



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City of Fresno	City of Clovis	Madera County Transportation Commission	City of Clovis	Fehr & Peers Associates	VRPA Technologies, Inc.	Madera County Road Department	Madera County Transportation Commission	Fresno Area Collaborative Regional Initiative	Fresno Business Council	City of Fresno	City of Fresno	Economic & Planning Systems	Land Use Associates	Moy & Associates	City of Clovis	Caltrans	Fehr & Peers Associates
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